

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I heard about this issue earlier today, and was very happy to receive information about what I could do to let you know my feelings. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Additionally, Sinclair had the audacity to tell their stations not to air Ted Koppels reading of the names of American troops who have died in service to their country, in service to us, and Sinclair dishonored them. Now it is furthering its agenda, which looks more like a police state than a democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.